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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/21/08

SPONSOR Heaton LAST UPDATED _____ HB 64

SHORT TITLE NM TECH Math & Science Career Preparation SB _____

ANALYST Haug

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$50.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 64 appropriates \$50.0 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology for an organization dedicated to preparing students for careers in mathematics, engineering and the sciences to provide, in Carlsbad, a one week in depth summer program in the science of energy for high school students in Southeast New Mexico. The summer program is to be conducted in partnership with the New Mexico State University Center for Environmental Monitoring in Carlsbad.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$50.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2009 shall revert to the general fund.

The HED states that this request was not submitted by NM Tech to the New Mexico Higher Education Department for review and is not included in the Department's funding recommendation for FY09.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to the HED, research indicates that stronger student preparation in mathematics, engineering, and the sciences is necessary for students in the United States to obtain jobs leading to the nation's competitiveness in the global economy. A one-week in-depth summer program in the science of energy for high school students in southeast New Mexico would help to improve the math, engineering, and science skills of high school students, prepare them for a postsecondary education to receive degrees in these disciplines, and encourage them to pursue careers in related fields.

Giving high school students an introductory education on New Mexico's energy resources has the potential to produce a local workforce with the knowledge of how best to use these resources in an economically efficient and environmentally-friendly manner.

The PED states that the Carlsbad Environmental Monitoring & Research Center was created in 1991, as a division of the Waste-management Education & Research Consortium (WERC), in the College of Engineering at New Mexico State University (NMSU). On September 1, 1999, the Center became a direct part of the College of Engineering, New Mexico State University.

GH/mt